

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To: ANTHONY MERCHANT  
KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP  
3424 PEACHTREE ROAD  
2400 MONARCH TOWER  
ATLANTA, GA 30326

**RECEIVED**

JUN 27 2001

**PCT**

## NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT OR THE DECLARATION

**(PCT Rule 44.1)**

<p>Applicant's or agent's file reference 12980-0101WP</p>	<p>Date of Mailing (day/month/year)      22 JUN 2001</p>
<p>International application No. PCT/US00/35300</p>	<p>FOR FURTHER ACTION    See paragraphs 1 and 4 below</p>
<p>Applicant LEE, CLARENCE C.</p>	<p>International filing date (day/month/year) 22 DECEMBER 2000</p>

1.  The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report has been established and is transmitted herewith.

**Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:**

The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):

**When?** The time limit for filing such amendments is normally 2 months from the date of transmittal of the international search report; however, for more details, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

**Where?** Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland  
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.

2.  The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect is transmitted herewith.

3.  With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:

- the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.
- no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

4. **Further action(s):** The applicant is reminded of the following:

Shortly after 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in rules 90 bis 1 and 90 bis 3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.

Within 19 months from the priority date, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later).

Within 20 months from the priority date, the applicant must perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before all designated Offices which have not been elected in the demand or in a later election within 19 months from the priority date or could not be elected because they are not bound by Chapter II.

<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231</p>	<p>Authorized officer <i>LORNA M. DOUVON</i> Telephone No. (703) 308-0661</p>
<p>Faxsimile No. (703) 305-3230</p>	

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To: ANTHONY MERCHANT  
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US  Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231  Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer  LORNA M. DOUYON <i>B. Merchant Jr.</i> Telephone No. (703) 308-0661
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**PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

**PCT**

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 12980-0101WP	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b>	see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/US00/35300	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 22 DECEMBER 2000	(Earliest) Priority Date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) 22 DECEMBER 1999
Applicant LEE, CLARENCE C.		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).
- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

2.  Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3.  Unity of invention is lacking (See Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

- the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
- the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 2

- as suggested by the applicant.
- because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
- because this figure better characterizes the invention.

None of the figures.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/US00/35300

**Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)**

This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Please See Extra Sheet.

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

**Remark on Protest**

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.



No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US00/35300

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) :D06B 1/04; D06F 1/00; D06L 1/00, 1/02, 1/04

US CL : 8/137, 139, 148, 158; 510/281, 283, 284; 68/213, 232

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 8/137, 139, 148, 158; 510/281, 283, 284; 68/213, 232

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

Please See Extra Sheet.

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,912,406 A (BLACK) 15 June 1999, see the entire document.	1-16
X	US 4,489,455 A (SPENDEL) 25 December 1984, abstract; col. 11, lines 2-41; col. 18, line 21 to col. 19, line 10; col. 30, lines 7-69.	1-10, 12-16
X	US 5,765,407 A (CHOO et al.) 16 June 1998, see the entire document.	17-20
X,P	US 6,010,540 A (TELESCA et al) 04 January 2000, abstract, claims 1-16.	17-20

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 MAY 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

22 JUN 2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US  
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box PCT  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer  
LORNA M. DOUYON

Telephone No. (703) 308-0661

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/US00/35300

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

**STN, EAST, WEST**

search terms: prespot, pretreat, device, washing machine, kit, portable, fabric, cloth, textile, insert or lay or laid, alcohol, ether, lipase, bleach

**BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION WAS LACKING**

This ISA found multiple inventions as follows:

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be searched, the appropriate additional search fees must be paid.

Group I, claim(s) 1-16, drawn to a method of treating soiled fabric and a device for treating soiled fabric.

Group II, claim(s) 17-20, drawn to a device for treating soiled fabric with an absorbent-containing absorbing material.

The inventions listed as Groups II do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The device for cleaning soiled fabric comprises an absorbent-containing absorbing material which is not required in Group I.